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Committee for Programme and Coordination
Fifty-second session
Organizational session, 26 April 2012
Substantive session, 4-29 June 2012
Item 2 of the provisional agenda
Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Annotated provisional agenda

Provisional agenda

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6. Provisional agenda for the fifty-third session.
7. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its fifty-second session.

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Annotations

1. Election of officers

At its twenty-fifth session, the Committee for Programme and Coordination reaffirmed the decision made at its twenty-fourth session that the post of its Chair, as well as the other posts on the Bureau, should rotate annually among the regional groups in the following pattern: (a) Group of African States; (b) Group of Eastern European States; (c) Group of Latin American and Caribbean States; (d) Group of Western European and Other States; and (e) Group of Asia-Pacific States.

At its fifty-second session, the Committee may wish to elect its Chair from the Group of Western European and Other States in accordance with the agreed pattern of rotation among regional groups, and the Rapporteur from the regional group that occupied the post of Chair of the Committee the previous year, namely, the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States.

2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Pursuant to paragraph 2 (e) of Economic and Social Council resolution 1979/41 and paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 34/50, the Committee submitted to the Council and the Assembly for their review the provisional agenda for its fifty-second session, together with the list of documentation requested.

In accordance with paragraph 6 of the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 2008 (LX), the reports of the Joint Inspection Unit concerning the economic, social and human rights programmes of the United Nations system, including the reports dealing with the United Nations Development Programme, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, shall be examined by the Committee, which shall report thereon to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly. In its resolution 59/267, the Assembly invited the Committee, in performing its programmatic, coordination, monitoring and evaluation functions, as set out in its mandate, to consider relevant reports of the Unit. The Assembly, in its resolution 66/8, endorsed the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee contained in its report on its fifty-first session, including its recommendation that the Assembly urge the Unit to intensify its efforts to introduce reports that are relevant to the function of the Committee (A/66/16, para. 8). In that connection, the Committee will select, at its organizational meeting, under agenda item 2, the report or reports of the Unit that it will consider at its fifty-second session under agenda item 5.

Pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 53/207 and 54/236 and its decision 54/474, attention is drawn to Secretary-General's bulletin ST/SGB/2000/8, which contains the approved Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation.

By its resolution 64/229, the General Assembly endorsed the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination and decided not to include the agenda item "Improving the working methods and procedures of the Committee for Programme and Coordination" in future sessions, and further decided to discuss

related matters under the agenda item "Adoption of the agenda and organization of work" as and when needed.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on the status of documentation for the fifty-second session (E/AC.51/2012/L.1)

Note by the Secretariat on the reports of the Joint Inspection Unit (E/AC.51/2012/L.2)

3. Programme questions

(a) Programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 2010-2011

Regulation 6.1 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation provides that:

> The Secretary-General shall monitor accomplishments, as measured by the delivery of outputs scheduled in the approved programme budget, through a central unit in the Secretariat. After the completion of the biennial budget period, the Secretary-General shall report to the General Assembly, through the Committee for Programme and Coordination, on programme performance during that period.

In paragraphs 19 and 20 of its resolution 58/269, entitled "Strengthening of the United Nations: an agenda for further change", the General Assembly emphasized the need to strengthen the monitoring and evaluation system and in that regard urged the Secretary-General to improve the format and timing of programme performance and evaluation reports. The Assembly also requested the Secretary-General to ensure that resources are clearly identified in all sections of the proposed programme budget for the performance of the monitoring and evaluation functions. In paragraph 11 of its resolution 62/224, the Assembly reaffirmed the role of the Committee for Programme and Coordination in reviewing performance and evaluation reports.

In its resolution 59/275, the General Assembly, in endorsing the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee set out in chapter II.B of the report on its forty-fourth session,[1] decided that the relevant programme of the proposed strategic framework would be considered in conjunction with the corresponding section of the programme performance report. Since the programme performance report reflects the period two bienniums prior to that covered by the proposed strategic framework, the Assembly also decided that the Secretariat would formally present updated information on the relevant parts of the programme performance report on the understanding that such updated information would also be considered. The Assembly, in its resolution 65/244, also endorsed the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee set out in chapter II.B of the report on its fiftieth session,[2] in which it requested the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to improve the programme performance report and, in that regard, to emphasize the need for more clarity and explanation concerning the implementation rate, as well as the reasons for addition, postponement and termination of outputs.

[1] A/59/16, para. 388.

[2] A/65/16.

By its resolution 63/247, the General Assembly endorsed the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee set out in chapter II.A of the report on its forty-eighth session,[3] in which the Committee requested the Secretary-General to provide more detailed information on the outcome of monitoring and evaluation at the departmental and executive levels, taking into account, in particular, how lessons learned were shared and applied in planning activities. It further requested the Secretary-General to improve consistency and to harmonize the presentation of the information regarding challenges, obstacles and unmet goals across all programmes.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 2010-2011 (A/67/__)

(b) Proposed strategic framework for the period 2014-2015

In its resolution 58/269 entitled "Strengthening of the United Nations: an agenda for further change", the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to prepare, on a trial basis, for submission to the Assembly at its fifty-ninth session, a strategic framework to replace the four-year medium-term plan, which would comprise in one document:

(a) Part one: a plan outline, reflecting the longer-term objectives of the Organization;

(b) Part two: a biennial programme plan, to cover two years.

By the same resolution, the General Assembly also affirmed that the strategic framework should constitute the principal policy directive of the United Nations and should serve as the basis for programme planning, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation and decided to review, with a view to taking a final decision at its sixty-second session, the format, content and duration of the strategic framework, including the necessity of maintaining part one.

By its resolution 62/224, the General Assembly endorsed the recommendation of the Committee at its forty-seventh session,[4] that the Assembly decide to maintain the strategic framework as the principal policy directive of the United Nations with effect from the biennium 2010-2011 and to continue to include part one, plan outline, in the strategic framework. The Committee requested the Secretary-General to improve the format of part one and the reflection of the longer-term objectives therein and reaffirmed that the Committee should, in performing its programmatic role in the planning and budgeting process, continue to review the programmatic aspects of the new and/or revised mandates approved subsequent to the adoption of the biennial programme plan, as well as any differences that may arise between the biennial programme plan and the programmatic aspects of the proposed programme budget, in accordance with its terms of reference, the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly.

[3] A/63/16.
[4] A/62/16.

In paragraph 10 of the same resolution, the General Assembly recalled regulation 5.6 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation and reiterated that the Committee for Programme and Coordination should continue to perform its role in reviewing the strategic framework and to recommend any necessary changes to the Economic and Social Council and the Assembly.

By its resolution 65/244, the General Assembly endorsed the recommendation of the Committee at its fiftieth session,[2] by which it requested the Secretary-General to present future plan outlines (part one) of proposed frameworks, taking fully into account the guidelines provided by the General Assembly in its resolutions 59/275, 61/235, 62/224 and 63/247, as well as subsequent relevant resolutions, in order to ensure that they more accurately captured the longer-term objectives of the Organization, based on all mandates that had been approved by the Member States.

In the same resolution, the General Assembly endorsed the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee requesting the Secretary-General to fully implement Assembly resolution 64/259, entitled "Towards an accountability system in the United Nations Secretariat" and to present concrete measures and actions taken to promote the culture of accountability within the Secretariat in future plan outlines, as well as in the biennial programme plans of the strategic framework.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the proposed strategic framework for the biennium 2014-2015; part one, plan outline, and part two, biennial programme plan (A/67/6 (Part one and Progs. 1-28))

(c) Evaluation

Triennial review

By its resolution 64/229, the General Assembly considered the recommendations of the Committee contained in chapter II.B of its report on its forty-ninth session[5] concerning the thematic evaluation of United Nations coordinating bodies; the thematic evaluation of lessons learned: protocols and practices; and the evaluation of United Nations support for least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and Africa. The Committee, at its fifty-second session, will undertake a triennial review of the implementation of the recommendations of those evaluation reports.

Documentation

Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the triennial review of the implementation of recommendations made by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its forty-ninth session on the thematic evaluation of United Nations coordinating bodies (E/AC.51/2012/2)

Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the triennial review of the implementation of recommendations made by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its forty-ninth session on the thematic evaluation of lessons learned: protocols and practices (E/AC.51/2012/3)

[5] A/64/16.

Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the triennial review of the implementation of recommendations made by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its forty-ninth session on the evaluation of United Nations support for least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and Africa (E/AC.51/2012/4)

4. Coordination questions

(a) Report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination

In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 2008 (LX), the Committee will have before it the annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) for 2011/12.

In paragraph 6 of its resolution 66/8, the General Assembly endorsed the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Committee on the work of its fifty-first session[6] regarding the annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2010/11. In paragraph 100 of the report, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly bring to the attention of the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of CEB, the need for the Board to continue to act in accordance with its mandate of enhancing system-wide coordination and in conformity with the intergovernmental mandates of its member organizations. In paragraph 107 of the same report, the Committee also recommended the continuous cooperation between CEB, the International Civil Service Commission and the Joint Inspection Unit and encouraged CEB to strengthen that cooperation through the more frequent participation of the Joint Inspection Unit and the International Civil Service Commission in the meetings of the High-level Committee on Management, the High-level Committee on Programmes and the United Nations Development Group.

Documentation

Annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2011/12 (E/2012/__)

(b) New Partnership for Africa's Development

In its resolution 60/257, the General Assembly endorsed the recommendations of the Committee on the New Partnership for Africa's Development contained in chapter IV.B of its report on the forty-fifth session.[7] In paragraph 237 of the report, the Committee recommended that the Assembly request the Secretary-General to report to the Committee at its forty-sixth session, and annually thereafter, on the progress, including problems, obstacles and challenges, as well as the goals of the United Nations system to be achieved in support of the New Partnership for Africa's Development.

In paragraph 6 of its resolution 66/8, the General Assembly endorsed the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee, contained in chapter III.B of its report on its fifty-first session[6] on the annual overview report on the New Partnership for Africa's Development. In paragraph 123 of the report, the

[6] A/66/16.

[7] A/60/16 and Corr.1.

Committee recognized that the Secretary-General's reporting on United Nations support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development had continued to improve and that the most recent report better responded to the previous calls to report tangible action and results in respect of United Nations system support for projects of the Partnership across the African continent, while stressing that future reports should further enhance the focus on the impact, in both quantitative and qualitative terms, of the activities implemented by entities of the United Nations system in support of the Partnership, with respect to the resources mobilized. In paragraph 129 of the same report, the Committee recommended that the United Nations system coordinate closely with the New Partnership for Africa's Development Planning and Coordinating Agency, as the technical body of the African Union, and other structures of the African Union Commission and the Partnership in order to further strengthen the implementation of the African Union/New Partnership for Africa's Development African Action Plan 2010-2015.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on United Nations system support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development (E/AC.51/2012/__)

5. Report(s) of the Joint Inspection Unit

Under agenda item 5, the Committee will consider the relevant report or reports of the Joint Inspection Unit, to be decided upon by the Committee at its organizational session, on 26 April 2012.

Documentation

Report(s) of the Joint Inspection Unit (see E/AC.51/2012/L.2)

6. Provisional agenda for the fifty-third session

Pursuant to paragraph 3 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1894 (LVII), the Committee will have before it the draft provisional agenda for its fifty-third session, with an indication of the documents to be submitted under each agenda item and the legislative authority for their preparation, in order to enable the Committee to consider those documents, their contribution to its work, their urgency and their relevance in the light of the current situation.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on the provisional agenda and documentation for the fifty-third session of the Committee (E/AC.51/2012/L.3)

7. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its fifty-second session

The report of the Committee on its fifty-second session will be submitted to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2012 and to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session.

Documentation

Draft report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the work of its fifty-second session (E/AC.51/2012/L.4 and addenda)

Annex

Members of the Committee for Programme and Coordination for 2012[a]

Member	*Term expires on 31 December*
Algeria	2013
Antigua and Barbuda	2013
Argentina	2014
Belarus	2014
Benin	2013
Brazil	2014
Bulgaria	2014
Cameroon	2014
China	2013
Comoros	2012
Cuba	2014
Eritrea	2013
France	2012
Guinea	2014
Guinea-Bissau	2014
Haiti	2012
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	2014
Israel	2012
Italy	2014
Malaysia	2014
Namibia	2012
Pakistan	2014
Republic of Korea	2013

[a] As indicated in A/66/316/Rev.1, there is one vacancy for members from Asia-Pacific States for a term of office beginning on the date of election by the General Assembly and expiring on 31 December 2013. In addition, there is one vacancy for members from Asia-Pacific States and four vacancies for members from Western European and Other States whose terms of office would begin on the date of election by the General Assembly and expire on 31 December 2014.

Republic of Moldova	2014
Russian Federation	2012
Uruguay	2014
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	2012
Zimbabwe	2014